

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS
OF THE
ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

January 15, 1884.

Prof. Newton, F.R.S., F.Z.S., in the Chair.

The Secretary read the following report on the additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of December 1883:—

The total number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of December was 81, of which 58 were by presentation, 10 by purchase, and 13 were received on deposit. The total number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 114.

The Secretary read a communication from Mr. J. C. O'Halloran, Chief Commissioner and Police Magistrate for Rodriguez, stating that he had sent for the Society a specimen of a large Lizard said to be found only in that Island and to be very rare there. The following note upon the specimen in question from Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.Z.S., was also read:—

“The specimen you kindly send to me belongs to an undescribed species of the genus *Phelsuma*, a small group of diurnal Geckos confined to Madagascar, the Seychelles, Comoro, Mascarene, and Andaman Islands, and of which I distinguish 7 or 8 species. The Rodriguez form was previously known to me from a single specimen, about the size of the one you now submit to me, presented by Mr. E.

Newton, which I have described and named *Phelsuma newtoni* in my still unpublished Catalogue of Lizards.

“It is distinguished from the other species by several important characters. Comparing it with the typical species of the genus, *P. cepedianum*, from Mauritius and Bourbon, we see that it differs in the much larger size—the largest *P. cepedianum* measuring hardly 60 millim. without the tail, whilst *P. newtoni* measures 105 millim.—the stouter habit, the shorter snout, the very small nearly indistinct chin-shields, the much larger gular granules, the coloration, &c. According to Leguat (as quoted by Dr. Günther in his paper on the Extinct Reptiles of Rodriguez) two kinds of Lizards lived in Rodriguez in the beginning of the last century—one diurnal, the other nocturnal. The former is no doubt a *Phelsuma*, as suggested by Dr. Günther; and as it is said by Leguat to be a French foot long, there is, it seems to me, little doubt that the two specimens hitherto secured are the survivors of that probably nearly extinct species.”

Mr. Sclater exhibited, on the part of Mr. Henry Whitely, an immature specimen of the Night Heron (*Nycticorax griseus*), which had been shot in Plumstead marshes, Kent, on the 3rd December, 1883.

Sir Joseph Fayrer exhibited some additional specimens of the horns of Deer gnawed by other Deer, in confirmation of previous remarks on the subject.

Canon Tristram, F.R.S., exhibited and made remarks upon some specimens of species of the genus *Pachycephala* which appeared to him to have been ignored or wrongly united to other species in a recently published volume of the Catalogue of Birds of the British Museum.

The following papers were read:—

1. Note on the Placentation of *Tetraceros quadricornis*. By W. F. R. WELDON, B.A., Scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge, Assistant Demonstrator in the Morphological Laboratory of the University.

[Received December 12, 1883.]

In the course of last summer a gravid female specimen of the Four-horned Antelope which died at the Society's Gardens came into my hands for dissection. I take this opportunity of recording a few notes on the structure of the uterus and placenta.

The external organs of generation were destroyed by rats before the animal was brought to me, so that I was unable to examine them. The upper part of the vagina was lined by flat, stratified epithelium,